

IN THE CLAIMS:

Replace claims 12-25 with new claims 26-39 as follows:

- Sub D1
B12
- 26. (New) A cosmetic composition, comprising a cosmetically acceptable carrier containing:
- (a) at least one fixing film-forming polymer which is a branched block copolymer comprising, as principal monomers, (1) at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₂₀ alkyl acrylate, N-mono-(C₂₋₁₂) alkylacrylamide, N-mono-(C₂₋₁₂) alkylmethacrylamide, N,N-di-(C₂₋₁₂) alkylacrylamide and N, N-di-(C₂₋₁₂) alkylmethacrylamide, and (2) at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, and acrylic and methacrylic acids, the polymer having a structure comprising hydrophobic blocks onto which more hydrophilic blocks are attached via bi-functional units,
 - (b) at least one thickening agent which is a cross-linked or non-cross-linked homopolymer or copolymer based on acrylic acid or methacrylic acid or acrylic and methacrylic acid, and
 - (c) at least one co-thickening agent which is a non-cellulosic thickening polymer different from thickening agent (b).

Sub E1

27. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 26, wherein the fixing film-forming polymer is a branched block copolymer consists essentially of n-butyl acrylate, acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, and allyl methacrylate as a bifunctional monomer.

28. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 26, wherein the concentration of fixing film-forming polymer is between 0.1 and 10% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

29. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 28, wherein the concentration of fixing film-forming polymer is between 1 and 5% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

30. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 26, wherein the thickening agent (b) is a cross-linked acrylic acid homopolymer. ?

31. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 26, wherein the thickening agent (b) is a copolymer of acrylic acid or methacrylic acid and a C₁₀₋₃₀ alkyl acrylate or methacrylate.

32. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 26, wherein the concentration of thickening agent (b) is between 0.1 and 3% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

33. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 32, wherein the concentration of thickening agent (b) is between 0.2 and 2% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

34. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 26, wherein the co-thickening agent (c) is of natural origin.

35. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 34, wherein the co-thickening agent (c) is guar gum, xanthan gum, scleroglucan gum, gelan gum, rhamsan gum, karaya gum, an alginate, maltodextrin, starch or its derivatives, or carob flour.

36. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 35, wherein the co-thickening agent (c) is guar gum or xanthan gum.

37. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 26, wherein the concentration of the co-thickening agent is between 0.05 and 2% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

38. (New) The cosmetic composition according to claim 37, wherein the concentration of the co-thickening agent is between 0.1 and 1% by weight relative to the total weight of the composition.

39. (New) A method for the styling and fixing of hair, comprising applying to the hair a cosmetic composition comprising a cosmetically acceptable carrier containing:

(a) at least one fixing film-forming polymer which is a branched block copolymer comprising, as principal monomers, (1) at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of C₁₋₂₀ alkyl acrylate, N-mono-(C₂₋₁₂) alkylacrylamide, N-mono-(C₂₋₁₂) alkylmethacrylamide, N,N-di-(C₂₋₁₂) alkylacrylamide and N,N-di-(C₂₋₁₂) alkylmethacrylamide, and (2) at least one monomer selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, and acrylic and methacrylic acids, the polymer having a structure comprising hydrophobic blocks onto which more hydrophilic blocks are attached via bi-functional units,

(b) at least one thickening agent which is a homopolymer or copolymer based on acrylic acid or methacrylic acid or acrylic and methacrylic acid which is cross-linked or non-cross-linked, and

(c) at least one co-thickening agent which is a non-cellulosic thickening polymer different from thickening agent (b).--